

Chapter 6: Consultation and Coordination With the Public and Others

6.1 Scoping and Public Involvement

Scoping and public involvement are vital components of federal planning and were given considerable attention during development of this Draft CCP/EIS for the Refuge. The public received our official notice of intent to prepare a CCP/EIS in the Federal Register, dated May 30, 2002 (Vol. 76, No. 104, page 37852). A Communication Plan and Congressional Outreach Plan were drafted in May, 2002.

Internal Scoping. Internal scoping was conducted between March and June, 2002, within each of the four Refuge districts and the Regional Office, with over 350 concern statements recorded. Many of these concerns were repeated at each setting which helped focus on the most important issues. An in-house, 1-day workshop was conducted at a refuge-wide meeting January 14, 2004 in Onalaska, Wisconsin. Refuge staff discussed issues and potential solutions for use in CCP/EIS preparation.

Public Scoping Meetings and Workshops. Ten public scoping meetings, professionally facilitated by Dr. Onnie Byers and Kathy Holzer of the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, Apple Valley, Minnesota, were attended by 473 citizens during August and September 2002. Citizens expressed 495 comments in response to the question, “what concerns you most about the future of the Refuge?” Approximately 35 additional written comments were received as a result of those meetings.

Upon completion of these public meetings, refuge staff compiled a series of 12 “Issue Fact Sheets” summarizing major habitat and recreational issues identified by the public. These one-page documents were used as reference materials for public workshops held in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; Savanna, Illinois; Winona, Minnesota; and Onalaska, Wisconsin between January and March, 2003. Called “Manager for a Day” workshops, citizens were invited to offer potential solutions to the 12 issues referred to above and any other issue they wished to address. These workshops were again facilitated by Dr. Byers and yielded hundreds of ideas and potential solutions from 116 citizen participants.

In anticipation of public concerns about waterfowl hunting and areas closed to waterfowl hunting on the Refuge, we conducted two special “Closed Area Informational Meetings” for public involvement. The first was in Onalaska, Wisconsin on September 11, 2003, and the second was in Savanna, Illinois on June 14, 2003. Staff made presentations on the history of closed areas, human disturbance issues, and the bioenergetic or food needs of waterfowl. Citizens provided pros and cons of management options in and around closed areas.

State and Federal Interagency Meetings. Refuge managers and biologists have worked closely with the departments of natural resources for Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin and the Corps of

Engineers (St. Paul and Rock Island Districts). An official CCP Interagency Planning Team consisting of state and Corps of Engineers representatives was first convened in December 2001, followed by meetings in May 2002, March 2003, and January 2004. Most representatives also participated in a Wildlife and Habitat Management Review of the refuge in August and October 2002.

Between January and April 2004, Refuge staff conducted briefings for state department of natural resource personnel from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, as well as managers of the Rock Island and St. Paul Districts, Corps of Engineers. These briefings involved discussions of issues and refinements of management alternatives the Refuge has considered in developing the draft CCP/EIS. Over 120 agency concerns and issues were received at those agency meetings.

Other Briefings. In late January, 2004 the Refuge conducted three briefings for Congressional and state legislature members and staff. Meetings were held in Savanna, Illinois, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and La Crosse, Wisconsin. Attendees included one state senator from Minnesota and staffers for three U.S. Representatives and three U.S. Senators.

In 2003 and 2004, briefings and presentations were given to the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, Mississippi River Citizens Commission, Wisconsin Parkway Commission, and the La Crosse County (Wisconsin) Conservation Alliance. Topics included the planning process and framework, issues being addressed, and avenues for public involvement and comment.

Newsletters and News Releases. Three “CCP Update” newsletters dated August 2002, December 2002, and July 2003, were sent to approximately 2,600 citizens, non-governmental organizations, media, and legislators. They described who we are, the planning process, proposed completion schedules, potential issues to be addressed in the Draft CCP/EIS, draft Refuge vision and goals, and announced times and locations of upcoming public meetings.

Four news releases were sent to approximately 52 media outlets during the scoping process. The first two (April 30, 2002 and June 28, 2002), announced our intent to complete the CCP and gave background on the process. The third, December 20, 2002, announced the “Manager for a Day” workshops and invited citizen participation. The final release was January 22, 2004 to announce that the Interagency CCP Planning Team had met (states and Corps of Engineers) and discussed a preliminary, in-house working draft of the alternatives being considered.

General. Details of public and agency meetings are available at Refuge headquarters in Winona, Minnesota. To date, Refuge staff have made numerous CCP presentations to a variety of audiences, including numerous radio, television, and print media. The Refuge also received over 100 written comments, many via e-mail, from the public throughout the scoping and plan preparation period. Each comment was acknowledged with a letter of thanks and the people were added to the mailing list.



Participants in an open house in September 2002 were asked to prioritize issues for consideration in the CCP. USFWS

6.2 Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation

Notification of preparation of the CCP and EIS is to be sent to the federally-recognized tribes and to the several county historical societies. In addition, the following listed organizations should be notified:

- # State Historic Preservation Officer for Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin
- # Office of the State Archeologist for Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin
- # Governor's Liaison for Indian Affairs in Iowa
- # Indian Affairs Council for Minnesota
- # Archaeological and historic preservation state-wide groups
- # The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- # The FWS Historic Preservation Officer

The final CCP with EIS is to be sent to each State Historic Preservation Officer and to others who request it.

6.3 List of Contacts

The Refuge has contacted the following agencies, organizations, and citizens regarding the CCP.

Elected Federal Officials

U.S. Senators & Representatives (16)
U.S. Senator Richard Durbin (Illinois)
U.S. Senator Peter Fitzgerald (Illinois)
U.S. Senator Charles Grassley (Iowa)
U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (Iowa)
U.S. Senator Norm Coleman (Minnesota)
U.S. Senator Mark Dayton (Minnesota)
U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (Wisconsin)
U.S. Senator Herb Kohl (Wisconsin)
U.S. Representative Philip Crane (Illinois)
U.S. Representative Lane Evans (Illinois)
U.S. Representative Dennis Hastert (Illinois)
U.S. Representative Donald Manzullo (Illinois)
U.S. Representative Tom Latham (Iowa)
U.S. Representative Jim Nussle (Iowa)
U.S. Representative Gil Gutknecht (Minnesota)
U.S. Representative Mark Kennedy (Minnesota)

U.S. Representative Ron Kind (Wisconsin)

Elected State Officials (33)

State Senator Denny Jacobs (Illinois)

State Senator Todd Sieben (Illinois)

State Senator Mike Connolly (Iowa)

State Senator E.T. Gaskill (Iowa)

State Senator Kitty Rehberg (Iowa)

State Senator Julie Hosch (Iowa)

State Senator Bryan Sievers (Iowa)

State Senator Roger Stewart (Iowa)

State Senator Mark Ziemann (Iowa)

State Senator Bob Kierlin (Minnesota)

State Senator Steve Murphy (Minnesota)

State Senator Ron Brown (Wisconsin)

State Senator Mark Meyer (Wisconsin)

State Senator Dale Schultz (Wisconsin)

State Representative Mike Boland (Illinois)

State Representative Jim Sacia (Illinois)

State Representative Patrick Verschoore (Illinois)

State Representative Polly Bukta (Iowa)

State Representative Chuck Gipp (Iowa)

State Representative Pam Jochum (Iowa)

State Representative Steven Lukan (Iowa)

State Representative Pat Murphy (Iowa)

State Representative Steven Olson (Iowa)

State Representative Bob Osterhaus (Iowa)

State Representative Roger Thomas (Iowa)

State Representative Gregory Davids (Minnesota)

State Representative Jerry Dempsey (Minnesota)

State Representative Gene Pelowski (Minnesota)

State Representative Steve Sviggum (Minnesota)

State Representative Barbara Gronemus (Wisconsin)

State Representative Mike Huebsch (Wisconsin)

State Representative DuWayne Johnsrud (Wisconsin)

State Representative Gabe Loeffelholz (Wisconsin)

State Representative Jennifer Shilling (Wisconsin)

Federal Agencies (8)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Coast Guard

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service

U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Forest Service

Native American Tribes (35)

Bad River Band, Chippewa

Boise Forte Band, Chippewa

Fond du Lac Band, Chippewa

Grand Portage Band, Chippewa

Lac Courte Oreilles Band, Chippewa

Lac du Flambeau, Chippewa

Leech Lake Band, Chippewa

Mille Lacs Band, Chippewa

Red Cliff Band, Chippewa

Red Lake Band, Chippewa

Sandy Lake Band, Chippewa

Sokaogon Chippewa

Devils Lake (Spirit Lake) Sioux

Flandreau Santee Sioux

Lower Brule Sioux

Lower Sioux Mdewakanton

Prairie Island Sioux

Santee Sioux

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux

Sisseton-Whapeton Sioux

Upper Sioux Community

Iowa Tribe of Kansas

Iowa tribe of Oklahoma

Menominee Indian Tribe
Miami Tribe
Stockbridge-Munsee
Peoria Indian Tribe
Citizen Potawatomi
Forest County Potawatomi
Hannahville Indian Community, Potawatomi
Prairie Band of Potawatomi
Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi
Ho-Chunk Nation
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

State Agencies (15)

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Iowa Historical Society
Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois Historic Preservation Division
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Minnesota Department of Transportation
Minnesota Historical Society
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Minnesota Water & Soil Resource Board
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Wisconsin Division of Tourism
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade

Cities (23)

Alma, Wisconsin
Brownsville, Minnesota
Cassville Village, Wisconsin
Dubuque, Iowa
Edgewood, Iowa

Elkader, Iowa
Fountain City, Wisconsin
Garnavillo, Iowa
Guttenberg, Iowa
Harper's Ferry, Iowa
Hokah, Minnesota
La Crescent, Minnesota
La Crosse, Wisconsin
Lansing, Iowa
McGregor, Iowa
Monona, Iowa
New Albin, Iowa
Onalaska, Wisconsin
Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin
Stoddard, Wisconsin
Trempealeau, Wisconsin
Waukon, Iowa
Winona, Minnesota

Counties (19)

Carroll, Illinois
Jackson, Illinois
JoDaviess, Illinois
Rock Island, Illinois
Whiteside, Illinois
Allamakee, Iowa
Clayton, Iowa
Clinton, Iowa
Dubuque, Iowa
Scott, Iowa
Houston, Minnesota
Wabasha, Minnesota
Winona County, Minnesota
Buffalo, Wisconsin
Crawford, Wisconsin
Grant, Wisconsin

La Crosse, Wisconsin
Trempealeau, Wisconsin
Vernon, Wisconsin

Organizations (263)

American Rivers
Audubon Society
Boy Scouts of America
Izaak Walton League of America
Sierra Club
The Nature Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Friends of the Upper Mississippi Refuges
Sportsmen's Clubs (96)
Businesses (45)
Schools/Univ. (26)
Libraries (34)
Other Organizations (54)

River Associations and Committees (13)

Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee
Midwest Area River Coalition 2000
Mississippi River Basin Alliance
Mississippi River Citizen Commission
Mississippi River Interstate Cooperative Research Association
Mississippi River Parkway Commission
Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission
Mississippi River Revival
River Resource Alliance
Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
Upper Mississippi River Congressional Task Force
Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee
Upper Mississippi Waterway Association

Media (110)

Newspaper (74)

Radio (20)

TV (16)

Citizens (2,098)

Illinois (274)

Iowa (287)

Minnesota (574)

Wisconsin (928)

Citizens in Other States (35)